

LINSEED BULLETIN

Linseed growth stages vary widely from advanced crops being at green bud stage to late sown crops being only 5 cm tall.

Flea Beetle

Earlier bulletins have dealt with this pest and well-developed crops are away from the risk of damage. This season flea beetle has not been a problem, but later developing crops remain at risk and intensive monitoring and control should be undertaken.

Fungicides

For crops at green bud stage fungicide protection to the developing flowers and capsules is now required. The most common diseases on Linseed are (in no particular order):

- Botrytis
- Septoria Linicola
- Alternaria sp

Linseed yield is produced from active photosynthesis (not from re-distribution), so maintaining green leaf area with fungicides is vital.

We strongly recommend the use of a fungicide on all but the poorest crops.

Fungicides such as Folicur have strong plant growth regulator activity so their use combines excellent disease control with insurance against lodging.

Our recommendation is to apply a reduced-rate application as follows:

Product	Rate	Timing	Repeat Dose
Folicur + Bravo*	0.25 - 0.5 lt/ha + 0.5 lt/ha	Late bud/first flower	Use higher rates where lodging risk is high

* Filan now has SOLA for use in Linseed. If your crop is at a high risk of Sclerotinia then substitute the Bravo with 0.25 kg/ha of Filan.

If the flowering period is 'damp' a further fungicide will be beneficial 2 to 3 weeks later. This spray offers a great opportunity to clear up part cans of fungicide in the spray shed! The aim is to apply a combined rate equivalent to half a normal dose of fungicide. Ensure any product used has approval for use on Linseed.

Continued Overleaf

Additional Nitrogen Applications

The recent rain has improved yield potential for many crops, so to realise this potential adequate Nitrogen fertiliser is required.

If you have held back some Nitrogen to boost yield the best application timing is when the green buds are visible (see earlier bulletin).

Nitrogen fertiliser use must be justified and RB209 used for guidance

Thrips

Thrips can sometimes be a problem in Linseed where they can stop normal capsule development. Before application of either of the fungicides, check for Thrips as follows:

- Walk into the field,
- With an open, downward facing palm brush the top of the crop with a full sweep of the arm,
- If you have about 5 small black bugs on your hand you have a Thrip problem!
- Often Thrips are only a problem on headlands, so check further into the field as well as just inside the gate!
- If the problem is confined to the headland only treat the headland.
- Hallmark offers good repellancy to Thrips.

Tortrix Moth

Every year we have some reports of Tortrix Moth damage (top of plant 'webbed' and bent over). Although seldom of economic significance, the application of Hallmark offers control (see below).

For Thrips and Tortrix moth treat as follows:

Product	Rate	Water Volume	Notes
Hallmark with Zeon Technology	75 ml/ha	200 lt/ha	Tank mix with fungicide

Copies of SOLA can be downloaded from www.pesticides.gov.uk. Click through to 'databases home' and use the search facility.

Always read the label before using pesticides. Use pesticides safely.
All products used under SOLA are at grower's risk.

VISIT US AT CEREALS – STAND 902